



The Bulletin

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Issue 1

THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL

150 Years Ago

On March 8, 1785, the Board of Governors met at Bradford's Coffee House (probably near the foot of Wall Street), and voted to allow a party of destitute Scotch immigrants to occupy the then unused Hospital buildings until their departure from the city on May 1, 1785.

100 Years Ago

On April 7, 1835, the Board of Governors met at the Hospital, then located on lower Broadway (the property being owned by the Hospital to this day) to consider the "propriety" of appointing a Chaplain for the Hospital, and for Bloomingdale Hospital, then located on the present site of Columbia University. On the same day it was voted to permit the Superintendent "to withdraw the keys of the Pharmacy from the House Physician," apparently an innovation.

BLOOMINGDALE HOSPITAL

At the first commencement address to medical graduates of Kings College in 1769, Dr. Samuel Bard made a plea for the founding of a hospital in the City for the relief of the poor, *sick in mind and body*. The idea was enthusiastically received, funds were subscribed, and in 1771 a Royal Charter was granted to the "Society of the New York Hospital in the City of New York in America."

Although the unfinished buildings were used temporarily for wounded American soldiers as well as British troops during the American Revolution, the Hospital was not opened by the Governors of the Society until January 3, 1791, with 18 patients.

In September of the next year, 1792, a patient suffering from a mental disorder was admitted. It may therefore be said that at this time the psychiatric department of the Society was started, for from 1792 the Society has continuously provided for the treatment of psychiatric cases.

Mental cases were at first cared for on the general wards of the Hospital with other patients. Later certain wards were designated for these patients. Owing to the increasing demands upon the Hospital a separate building adjoining the main building was constructed in 1808.

In 1821 because of the growth of the City and on account of the need for more extensive accommodations for mental patients, this department was moved to a site north of the City in the village of Bloomingdale, now the site of Columbia University. Although this department then took on a new name, Bloomingdale, derived from its location, it continued as the psychiatric department of the New York Hospital.

On account of the encroachments of the City on the Hospital property, it again became necessary to move. Accordingly in 1894 Bloomingdale Hospital was removed to White Plains, New York, where it continues as a curative psychiatric hospital for the treatment of acute nervous and mental disorders in persons of education and refinement.

Bloomingdale Hospital is under the management of a Committee of the Board of Governors which was organized in 1808, now called the Bloomingdale Committee.

The Social Service Department

Miss Mai Edgren from the State School of Nursing, Abo, Finland, was among the visitors to the Social Service Department.

Dr. P. Darcey Hart of the University College Hospital, London, who is in the United States on the Temple Cross Tuberculosis Fellowship and is spending several weeks at New York Hospital, called at the Social Service Department a few days ago. He is interested in types of Social Service organizations as developed in American hospitals and inquired particularly regarding our methods of recording social histories.

Sonya, an Out-patient, was greatly agitated because having lost her sight in one eye she was unable to read with the remaining one. Three days after the eye test she was scheduled to take an examination for citizenship. She asked that the prescribed glasses be rushed accordingly.

A few days later she reported to clinic terribly upset because the glasses were "no good—couldn't read with them at all." After much quizzing, it was found that she could not read English at all, but thought if she had American glasses she would, of

course, be able to read English.

N.B.—She is studying in evening classes, learning to read, et cetera.

Abie, aged eleven, had been ordered to the country, and after several attempts by social worker to get him into clinic for examination, he finally arrived.

After a great deal of coaxing, he was lured by an attractive little nurse into a small room for the purpose of having cultures taken. In a very crisp voice she commanded him to undress, and to her amazement Abie's reply was a mad dash through the door and up the street—his excited mother following at his heels.

The following day Abie's mother came to the Hospital to apologize to the social worker for his extraordinary behavior. "You should excuse him, Miss —" said she, "but Abie said, 'I should take off all my clothes in front of the nurse, when I never saw her before! If I do that now, what'll they do to me in the country!—NO SIR!' You see Miss - - - I raised my boy right, and he ain't used to anything like that."

The Hospital Convalescent Hospital For Children

In 1900, a Cottage, ideally located on the beautiful grounds of Bloomingdale Hospital, was opened to operate a small service for Convalescent Women from the 15th and 16th Streets Hospital. In 1907, the Governors decided to extend the service to include convalescent children. Adjacent to the women's Cottage two little portable Cottages were placed, providing temporary quarters for about 16 children while permanent buildings were being erected.

The new Cottages were arranged to care for girls from 1 to 8 yrs., and boys from 1 to 10 yrs. of age.

In 1915, the women patients were transferred to the newly opened Burke Foundation for adult convalescents, and their Cottage converted into accommodations for 30 girls from 8 to 16. In 1920, thru the generosity of the late Mr. Augustus D. Juilliard, an extension was made to the younger children's building which added a lovely school-room, and other facilities increasing the total number of beds to 80, our present capacity.

Miss Alice C. Ellison, a graduate of the New York Hospital Training School for Nurses, organized this branch of the Society of the New York Hospital, and administered the institution for a period of 25 years, retiring in 1932. Miss Ellison's devoted and splendid work as a pioneer in this field is well known to all those familiar with the development of Convalescent care for children.

The Cottages consist of a group of three connected buildings, all of which, with the exception of the before mentioned Juilliard extension, were given by the Misses Catherine B. and Maria L. Campbell—Known for many years as Campbell Cottages, the name of this institution has recently been changed to the Society of the New York Hospital Convalescent Hospital for Children. This work is supported solely by the Society of the New York Hospital. Over a period of 27 years over 21,000 children have been cared for.

Children of all creeds, colors, and nationalities are accepted, and are admitted, transported to and from the Cottages, and cared for entirely free of charge. In addition all clothing, (with the exception of outer garments, i.e.—shoes and coats), is provided for children up to 10 yrs. of age, during their stay at the Cottages.

Types accepted include all convalescent or preventive, general, medical, and surgical cases, with the exception of contagious diseases, epileptic, and diabetic cases.

The Cottages may be reached by car via any of the fine roads and parkways connecting New York City and Westchester County, or by either the New York Central R.R., or the New York, Boston and Westchester R.R. which connects with New York City elevated and subway lines. The inspection of any one interested is cordially invited.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Many guests to the school of nursing, some of whom are on Rockefeller Foundation fellowships, include a number from foreign countries. Among these various visitors from Europe have been Miss Maj-lis Edgren, Director of the State School of Nursing, Åbo, Finland, who observed our work for two months; Mlle. Lassimone, Directress of Nursing of the Foch Foundation, Paris; Miss Jarmila Rousarova of the Public Health School of Nursing, Praha, Czechoslovakia; Misses Holland and Taylor, sister-tutors of

Guy's Hospital, London, England; Frau Erna Von Abendroth, Ph. D. Director of the Schwestern Schule, Dresden, Germany; Madame Maria Pertia, Director of the School of Nursing, Roumania. From the Far East have come Misses Hirst, Wynne and Leach of the faculty of the Peiping Union Medical College School of Nursing, Peiping, China, Miss Peters of the St. Luke's College of Nursing, Tokyo, Japan, Drs. Wu Chi Mog and R. T. Eng of Canton, China.

Among our guests from Canada have been Miss Kathleen Russell, Director of the School of Nursing, University of Toronto and at various times five other members of that faculty, two from the Victorian Order of Nurses of Toronto and Montreal and three from Toronto Western Hospital. Three guests from South Africa and one from South America were with us for a limited time.

The eight hour day for special nursing service which has been in operation in many hospitals for some time was inaugurated here October fifteenth, 1934. We are convinced that the advantages of this service are better care to the patient and a more reasonable life for the nurse. This service now accepted by many of our clinicians is proving satisfactory to them and to their patients and we hope may be an incentive to others to try the service.

Many of our students are helping to defray their expenses while in the school through various means of activity. As it is especially difficult for them to do outside work during their course of study in nursing a scholarship aid and student loan fund was generously established by a friend of the school two years ago. Thirteen promising students have benefited by this fund which has now become considerably depleted. A group of staff members interested in and studying dramatics presented a play, April 4-10, as a benefit for this fund. They are being instructed by Fannie Bradshaw, niece of Otis Skinner, who has produced several delightful plays by her students in our residence.

Among the various interesting social activities of the nurses residence under the auspices of the House Committee have been several delightful concerts by the Chelsea Singers and the production of several plays and the Mikado by the dramatic group of the Works Division of the Department of Public Welfare.

ALUMNI DAY

On May 2, the Hospital will be thrown open to Alumni of the Cornell Medical College, who will gather here to renew their old associations. There will be demonstrations for their benefit in various parts of the Hospital and the Medical College. By special invitation of the Board of Governors, they will be guests of the hospital at lunch. A large attendance is expected.

WOMANS CLINIC

From Sept. 1, 1932 to March 1, 1935 the Woman's Clinic reports the birth of 9018 infants. Among these the largest living baby weighed 13 pounds and 14 ounces. There were 84 sets of twins. No triplets nor quintuplets.

Professor Brown of University College, London, Professor Halban of Vienna, Professor Fraenkel, erstwhile Director of the Frauenklinik of Breslau, and Dr. W. W. Chipman of McGill University, Montreal were among the distinguished visitors from the English, European and Canadian Clinics.

Throughout the year we were also honored by the following list of visitors who are Professors of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the various universities mentioned below: Dr. A. H. Curtis, Northwestern University; Dr. Otto H. Schwarz, Washington Univ., St. Louis; Drs. F. C. Irving and F. B. Kellogg, Harvard Univ.; Dr. N. F. Miller, Univ. of Michigan; Dr. J. R. McCord, Emory Univ.; Dr. Rowland, Univ. of Maryland.

The American Gynecological Club and recently the American Association of Obstetricians, Gynecologists and Abdominal Surgeons were entertained by the Clinic.

A member of this staff presented papers before the Postgraduate Medical Assembly of South Texas in Houston and to the Texas Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in Galveston last Fall. This Spring he attended the meeting of the American Gynecological Club in New Orleans. On April the 24th he is to address the South Carolina Medical Association in Florence.

Another member was invited to present papers before the Academies of Medicine of Buffalo and Binghamton, N. Y., last November. The staff was also represented at both the New York State Medical Society meeting in Utica this past year and at the Sixth Annual Conference of the American Association of Record Librarians in Boston, October, 1934.

Dr. Paul W. Bloch of the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, having been granted a Fellowship of the Rockefeller Foundation, is spending some time with us in the course of his year's study in this country.

An award of a Research Fellowship in Obstetrics and Gynecology in this Clinic for the coming year has been made to a member of this Department.

Among the resident staff who are leaving next year, Dr. Burwell received an appointment on Dr. Holden's Obstetrical and Gynecological Service at the Bellevue Hospital. Dr. Fagan is to be resident obstetrician at the Polyclinic Hospital. Dr. Fortin is to go to the Lewis Memorial Maternity, Lovola Univ., Chicago on Dr. Greenhill's Service. Dr. Walter has obtained an appointment in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Mount Sinai Hospital, New York.

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

The formula room of the New York Hospital under the efficient management of the Nutrition Department is more than prepared for any emergency problem in the feeding of infants which our colleagues of the Women's Clinic may present to us. Even the arrival of quintuplets (said by the newspapers to occur once in 80,000,000 births) would find an adequate supply of human milk to care for their needs. On December 1, 1934 approximately eighty quarts of sterile "canned" human milk was on hand. During the month of November one mother, in addition to feeding adequately her own newborn infant, brought in 30 quarts of milk (or one quart per day) which was purchased from her at the rate of \$.10 an ounce. This milk was sterilized by heating in a boiling water bath for twenty minutes on each of three successive days and was then stored on ice to be used for feeding premature infants as needed. The size of our own supply of human milk permitted us to sell 265 oz. to the Mothers' Milk Bureau (Henry Street) in November. On occasion this bureau has supplied us with milk. The price for the sterilized "canned" product is \$.25 per ounce. The spread between price to the producer and price to the consumer compares favorably with conditions in the cow's milk industry.

Juliet Morgan Hamilton True, who earned her given name by being the first girl born in the New York Hospital, revisited the Out Patient Department of the Children's Clinic a short time ago. She is now two years and three months old and weighs 32 lbs. Her general appearance, to quote her examining physician, is "that of a very well developed, well nourished girl of two years; very happy and playful and anxious to sing." The major events in her medical career so far have been several colds and an injection of diphtheria toxoid. She will be vaccinated against smallpox on her next visit. On her trip to the New York Hospital Children's Clinic, she manages to be seen by a veritable army of "godmothers" and "godfathers" in various departments of the hospital.

ACCIDENTS

A representative of a large Insurance Company who had an occasion to visit the Hospital recently made the statement that in addition to paying the direct cost, that (Compensation and Medical) through our insurance premium, of all accidents occurring in the Hospital, we were also losing approximately four times this amount as a result of our accidents, and explained this by pointing out to us that all accidents involved an uninsured and hidden cost caused by the breakage and damage of equipment, the spoiling of food stuffs, chemicals, etc., time lost by other employees who may be assisting the injured employee out of curiosity or sympathy, time lost by supervisors in assigning

another employee to take the place of the injured employee and many other factors which are not usually apparent, but which can be definitely determined with very little effort, after we have learned to recognize these hidden factors and to assign correctly the cost of accidents.

After listening to his story, we were compelled to admit that while this hidden cost may not be quite as great as he stated, it was certainly too great an item to be permitted to go unrecognized in the future as it had been in the past.

Moral—Be careful.

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

The Sputum and Pneumonia typing laboratory was opened last fall. This laboratory does all of the sputum examinations of tuberculosis bacilli for the Department of Medicine. All the pneumonia typing for the Hospital is now being carried on in the subdepartment of Infectious Disease of the Department of Medicine in Room F-464 during the day and by the medical house staff during the night. This work was formerly performed by the Central Laboratories.

Pavilion H-4 was opened about the same time. There are 19 beds for chronic chest diseases and 7 beds for skin diseases. This is now being used to capacity.

Free courses in German, conducted by the State Department of Education are being carried on in the Hospital as follows:—

Medical German

Monday 5-6 p.m. Room F-339

Wednesday 5-6 p.m. Room F-639

Beginners German

Monday 6-7 p.m. Room F-339

Wednesday 6-7 p.m. Room F-339

Dr. Victor C. Jacobsen formerly Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology visited the New York Hospital for about six months, working in the Pulmonary Clinic of the Out-Patient Department and making rounds with the Attending Physicians on the wards of the Department of Medicine. Dr. Jacobsen is planning to open his new office in Troy, New York.

The Clinical Session on Chronic Pulmonary Diseases will be held on Wednesday, April 24th, 1935, at 8:30 p.m. in B-011 under the auspices of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium Conference. Dinner will be served in the College dining room at 6:30 o'clock (one dollar per person). It is requested that reservations for the dinner be made with Mr. Bernard S. Coleman, Secretary, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION

The Department has been authorized to open the Visitors' Dining Room on the 14th floor. While this is done primarily as an accommodation for visitors to patients, the dining room is open to all members of the Hospital and College organizations, who

will be furnished either a la carte or table d'hôte service. It is requested that staff members appear in street clothes rather than in uniforms or smocks.

This room is so attractive and the menus have met with such favor that the attendance has averaged as high as twenty persons per meal.

In choosing from the large variety of dishes served in the various dining rooms and cafeterias, it may be interesting to recall the menu for patients authorized by the Board of Governors on May 7th, 1799.

Breakfast

Sunday and Tuesday—Rye coffee, with molasses, and bread.

Thursday and Saturday—Cocoa sweetened with molasses, and bread.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday—Mush and molasses.

Dinner

Sunday and Tuesday—Ox head and meat soup, with Indian dumpling.

Thursday and Saturday — Ox head and meat soup with vegetables in season.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday — Rice and Molasses.

Supper

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday —Mush and Molasses.

Wednesday, Friday and Sunday—Rye coffee or cocoa, and bread.

We think we do rather better today, but if there should be a demand for the 1799 menu, we can probably provide it.

PAYNE WHITNEY PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC

The Payne Whitney Clinic was selected by the Council of the New York Society for Clinical Psychiatry for the first meeting of the year, Dr. Clarence O. Cheney presided. The following papers were presented by members of the staff:

1. Psychiatric Problems in Pediatrics—
2. Psychiatric Problems in the General Hospital.
3. Convulsive Phenomena in Functional Mental Disorders.

Refreshments were served after the close of the meeting.

A short time ago, the Directors of Nursing of the Eastern Corporate Psychiatric Hospitals held a conference at the Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic. A formal tea was given to the group on October 24th by the Director of Psychiatric Nursing and the Nursing Staff of the Clinic.

Commencing last November, Sunday afternoon teas have been served in the Lounge of the Payne Whitney Clinic for patients and their guests.

To the relief of all concerned, the two coal pockets on the river side of the Clinic have decided to move. One has already gone, and the other will follow shortly. The absence of their noise and dirt will be a blessing.

THE OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT

Some time ago, the Tuberculosis Division of the City Health Department conducted a series of X-Ray tests on unemployed persons on civilian relief. By means of a new process, as many as 488 X-Rays were performed in one day, an almost unheard of figure. Reports are being received of the results of these tests, many of them of wide interest. For example, among four thousand persons examined, over 250 were found to be tubercular. This does not seem to be a high figure until it is recalled that these people were supposed to be in good health and had not complained of illness.

There has been a considerable increase in attendance during the late winter and early spring months, due in part to the ordinary cold, or allied infections. This does not sound serious, or even worthy of comment to the average person. But figures show that this form of sickness, simple as it is, causes a greater loss of time and wages than *all other causes of illness combined*.

In the case of the "Out" patient, there are many occasions where the non-professional staff can help in making the individual sick person feel at home, in answering questions as to how to find their way and where to go. The way a person feels towards an institution often depends upon the manner of someone "down the line". One leading hotel system has successfully followed this policy. They believe that all the plans of the management may be defeated by the careless or indifferent manner of some hall-boy, elevator operator, waiter, bookkeeper or room clerk. This same principle is much more important in "Our Hospital", which for nearly 150 years has followed a tradition of helping the sick. A patient coming here for the first time, is apt to be bewildered and confused by the strangeness of a new place, added to the fear and anxiety on account of illness or a disabling injury.

Indirectly, the purpose of every department in the hospital is to contribute to the care of the sick, their families and the whole community. In the case of the Out-Patient Department, there are many ways in which members of the administration and maintenance departments can, directly through individual personal manner, create a spirit of human sympathy and friendliness, that will make the sick stranger in *our house* feel, that he is welcome and the real reason for our "jobs".

NOTICES

The following changes in title which have been in effect since the first of the year should be noted:

Mr. Murray Sargent, *Executive Director*.

Mr. Walter J. Nichols, *Assistant Treas.*

Mr. A. J. Patafio, *Apothecary*.

The New York Nursery and Child's Hospital

Shortly after the first of the year, the New York Nursery and Child's Hospital, for many years located on West 60th Street, became an integral part of the New York Hospital. The old buildings have been closed and the work will be carried on largely by our own Department of Pediatrics, with the exception of the work in connection with homeless children, which will be continued by the Sullivan Foster Home.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

The magnitude of the needs of the New York Hospital can be realized best by a compilation of the various services rendered by the Department of Engineering during the year 1934 and the savings due to the more economical operations and changes made in the various sub-divisions of the Department as against the preceeding year of 1933.

	1933	1934
Fuel:		
4,017,374.5 gals.		3,996,811.05 gals.
Saving in fuel:		20,563.45 gals.
		or 4,896 bbls. \$6,903.36
Steam:		
512,776,970 Lbs.		517,063,230 Lbs.
Difference:		4,286,260 Lbs.

By this it can be readily seen that the Department of Engineering produced 4,286,260 pounds of steam on 20,563.45 less gallons of fuel oil or resolving it back to 1933 the same amount of steam on 56,283 gallons less of fuel oil. This has been due to economies perfected in the generation of steam and also to changes in the steam using equipment whereby a smaller amount of steam provided the same or greater amount of heat.

Some idea of the service given to the Hospital may be conveyed by saying that the output of electricity furnished last year would take care of the electrical wants of a city of 20,000 homes, each home using 35 kilowatt hours per month.

The Nursing Department has made it the practice each year upon taking in a new class to have the class make a tour throughout the Power House and various apparatus rooms where they are given lectures describing the different apparatus and the relation of same to the services rendered to the various sections of the Hospital.

They are also instructed how they can help to reduce the costs of operation to their own, as well as to the Engineering Department, by turning off lights unnecessarily used, reporting defective apparatus, leakage, waste, etc., The Engineering Department has found that these lectures and inspection trips have been productive of much good and extends to the Nursing Department its appreciation for their co-operation, as their assistance has been very valuable.

The Engineering Department thinks these inspections and lectures should be held at least four times a year and should embrace other departments in this itinerary.

DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY

JAMES BUCHANAN BRADY FOUNDATION

THE PROGRAM

Ordinary rounds, daily 9 A.M.—Resident and Staff with one visiting doctor

Grand Rounds every Wednesday at 3 P.M. including the Indoor Staff of doctors and nurses and the entire Staff of visiting doctors. At these rounds every patient's case is discussed. Pre-operative preparation, Post-operative care and suggestions for further treatment are included.

Four P. M. each Wednesday—Conference—at which time interesting cases are discussed. New operative procedures and treatments are reported upon and general matters for the good of the Service.

This department is continuing its practise of holding monthly staff dinners, after which there is a general discussion of unusual cases, diagnoses and so forth.

Economic conditions in this city have brought a large number of unusual patients to the Pavilion Floor. These include a dramatic teacher of considerable renown, doctors, private secretaries, teachers, governesses and many other types who, in normal times would be classed as private patients.

Several professional inventions have been perfected recently by members of this staff, such as a Biopsy Taking Device, a Vesical Neck Resectoscope, a Shrinkage Cystoscope, a Forward-Looking Urethroscope and (believe it or not) a device for taking moving pictures inside the bladder.

The following books are in the process of preparation by the staff: Text Book of Urology for Nurses; A History of Urology in the New York Hospital from 1779 to 1935; Differential Diagnosis in Urology.

The geographical distribution of the house staff is wide, to say the least, the following states being represented: Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Michigan and Colorado.

Visitors to the department are still more widely distributed, as the list below shows, from the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, Chicago, Hyderabad in British India, San Jose, Cal., Callao, Peru, Ancon, Canal Zone, Budapest, Hungary, Istanbul, Turkey, Caracas, Venezuela, Phoenix, Arizona, San Francisco, Cal., Mexico City, Mexico.

Since 1930, the United States Navy has been sending representatives of its Medical Corps for a tour of six months duty in this department. Arrangements have been made whereby the designated officer takes his place on the House Staff and serves his six months, being relieved by another officer at that time.